

# Greetings from the President of the World Gastroenterology Organisation



Three phenomena are remarkable enough to justify mentioning on the occasion of the creation of a new medical journal *Folia Gastroenterologica et Hepatologica*.

First, ten years ago, many experts expected that medical journals would disappear and be taken over by the World Wide Web and Internet. How wrong this view turns out to be. Medical journals have not disappeared, if anything their number has increased.

Second, over the past two decennia Europe has seen remarkable progress particularly in the medical arena, both academic and non-academic, both clinical and basic.

This is reflected also in our specialty hepatogastroenterology.

Third, the World Gastroenterology Organisation (WGO/OMGE) is constantly growing in its worldwide educational role and greatly appreciates the progress of medicine and gastroenterology - hepatology in particular, especially in the middle and eastern European countries.

For these three reasons it is a major laudable step to create a GI journal for middle and eastern Europe, to publish the best of what the various countries involved have to offer in clinical and basic GI research. We wish the journal well and may the journal grow from strength to strength and expose the world to the abundance of talent, wisdom, experience and motivation, so characteristic of this beautiful energetic part of the world.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Guido Tytgat', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

**Prof. Dr. Guido N. J. Tytgat**

President of the World Gastroenterology Organisation